Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: LKH Uniklinikum Graz

Project Number: 2013-0237 Country: Austria

Project Description: Expansion and improvement of the University Hospital

Graz under the investment programme LKH 2020

EIA required: no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise: no

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

The project concerns the extension and rehabilitation of an existing university hospital. Hospitals are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, as the project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. The foreseen construction works will be all carried out on an existing site and within or in close connection with the existing buildings. The underlying land use plan was revised in May 2010 to ensure that the foreseen constructions are aligned with the overall town planning concept. Within this process, environmental issues have been handled and the competent authority approved this plan without requesting an EIA as per the national land use plan and building act (Steiermärkisches Raumordnungsgesetz – St ROG) that is aligned with the Directive 2011/92/EU.

Overall the rehabilitation, extension and restoration of the – partly – listed buildings will improve hygiene and safety conditions and will allow the promoter to apply the most stringent statutory and technical conditions. The modernised buildings will provide a more pleasant environment for staff, patients and visitors while the rehabilitation of the existing buildings will increase the energy efficiency of the existing premises and the new construction will increase the overall consumption and extend the urbanised area. In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered acceptable with minor negative residual impact.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

As the project covers construction works on the site of an existing hospital with only minor extensions of the buildings' footprint, no significant impact is expected on the environment. The relevant urban development plan (Flächenwidmungsplan) has been revised in May 2010 in particular to consider the investment programme LKH 2020 and the relocation of the Faculty of Medicine from the inner city to a new site next to the hospital. The revised plan considers in particular i) the careful arrangement and sizing of the new buildings for the Faculty of Medicine to allow the free flow of fresh air from a nearby valley into the town ii) the rehabilitation of the original appearance and layout of the listed hospital buildings iii) the improved connection of the site to the public transport by extending an existing tram line.

Being a publicly owned and controlled organisation, the promoter has set up sound institutional bodies to follow best practice when building and operating the facilities in respect to environmental issues. The relevant findings and procedures are published in specifications which have to be followed and reports about the environmental performance are publicly available. To reduce the use of cars, the promoter is in constant consultation with the relevant bodies of the city to stimulate the use of public transport and bicycles, e.g. through the provision of reduced tickets for staff or the provision of 2,000 covered places for bikes.